

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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DLOS-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4704

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3964

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DA

SUBJ: INCREASE IN DANISH DEFENSE CAPABILITY

REFS: (A) COPENHAGEN 1459; (B) COPENHAGEN 1803

1. THE DANISH PARLIAMENT'S FINANCE COMMITTEE ON JUNE 29

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APPROVED MINISTER OF DEFENSE ORLA MOLLER'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO SPEND ON NEW CREWS, SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT FOR FISHERIES PROTECTION FORCES THAT WILL POLICE THE RECENTLY EXPANDED ECONOMIC ZONES AROUND GREENLAND, THE FAROES, AND IN THE NORTH SEA.

2. THE FUNDS IN QUESTION ARE THOSE FOR FISHERIES PROTECTION

REPORTED IN REF A, WHICH THE DANES INCLUDED AS DEFENSE EXPENDITURE IN THEIR BUDGET PRESENTATION TO NATO. THE ACTION BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEANS IN EFFECT THAT THE DANES WILL BEGIN TO SPEND THOSE FUNDS. THE BREAKDOWN GIVEN IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE PRESS RELEASE IS AS FOLLOWS FOR A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD: OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURES, DOLS. 11 MILLION ANNUALLY; MATERIEL INVESTMENTS, DOLS. 45 MILLION; SHIP'S COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, DOLS. 3 MILLION; AND PURCHASE OF SEVEN HELICOPTERS, DOLS. 24 MILLION. THE RELEASE ALSO STATES THAT THE FULLY-IMPLEMENTED INSPECTION SERVICE WILL HAVE 420 NEW POSITIONS, 300 TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE PRESENT FISCAL YEAR.

3. THE OPPORTUNITY THAT FISHERIES PROTECTION PROVIDES TO BUILD UP NAVAL AND AIR STRENGTH WAS DISCUSSED RECENTLY BY MOLLER AND CNO ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY DURING THE LATTER'S JUNE 26-28 VISIT TO DENMARK AS THE GUEST OF THE DANISH NAVAL CHIEF OF STAFF. BECAUSE OF THIS POLICING NEED, DENMARK WILL GAIN AUGMENTED NAVAL AND AIR STRENGTH IN THE FORM OF NEW AND MODERNIZED VESSELS, NEW HELICOPTERS, AND ADDITIONAL CREWS.

4. THE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN MOLLER AND ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY WERE DOUBLY ADVANTAGEOUS FROM THE U.S. POINT OF VIEW. THEY REAFFIRMED THE U.S. AND NATO OBJECTIVE OF A CONTINUING AND HOPEFULLY LARGER DANISH DEFENSE EFFORT, AND THEY DEMONSTRATED THE U.S. WISH TO MAINTAIN CLOSE AND FRIENDLY TIES WITH DENMARK. THE ADMIRAL'S REITERATION OF DENMARK'S STRATEGIC IM-
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PORTANCE TO NATO WAS WARMLY RECEIVED. DEAN

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